

The Times' New Editorial and Feature Page



THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME
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THE TIMES' HONORABLE—
An institution that shall always be found fighting for decency in the public service regardless of personal gain or loss, uncompromising with all its might the demagogues of all, fighting for progress and practical reform; opposed to special privilege and the custom of improperly influencing law-making and law-enforcing bodies; whether by predators plutocrats or predatory powers; whether by Tammany or Tammanyism, or by any other device, constantly straining to greater the uses accurately and to discuss it impartially, willing to correct instantly an injustice done the most humble, yet too proud to apologize to the most high for policy sake.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1915.

A PLEASING PICTURE

It is a pleasing picture that the immediate future holds before the eyes of the citizens of this metropolis of the southwest. The greatest crops in history are beginning to move from the producing to the consuming side of the market, and the golden flow is setting Oklahomaward.

In beautiful co-operation with this sound basic condition real estate is beginning to move here, and the demand for houses is increasing to such an extent, that investors, quick to see an opportunity, are contemplating the erection of a large number of modern homes for rental and sale purposes.

One interest, it is said, will soon begin the erection of fifty homes on the east side, while in the northwest an additional fifty, it is announced, will start within the next thirty days. All this sounds strange indeed to those who for three years and more have been accustomed to reading "For Rent" signs on every street.

The unchanged truth is that Oklahoma City has no available houses, and must build homes if she is to take care of the natural growth of the community incidental to the autumn season.

Those who insist that there will be a hundred thousand souls in this community within the next three years are not dreaming; they are only men with vision who are capable of properly appraising the wonderful advantages offered for home-making and business-building.

EASTERN OILS ADVANCE

The advance in the price of eastern grades of oil is gratifying. First of all it demonstrates that the stiffening of values is general throughout the American fields, and is buttressed by marketing conditions. This argues for stability and a continuing appreciation.

The oil industry, therefore, may be said to be out of the doldrums permanently, at least until such a time as production is again increased beyond the point where there is an adequate demand for the entire output.

But Cushing's, according to the dope sheet, come only once in a lifetime.

ARE THE PEOPLE REASONABLE?

Some of them are not. There is the case of the Santa Fe railway and its new short line through the Cushing oil fields, for instance. The Santa Fe bought this project from the promoters, and connected all of the principal points in the Cushing field. It charged a passenger rate of 5 cents a mile, making the fare, between principal points range from 50 to 75 cents.

There was a complaint made to the corporation commission, and the commission ordered the Santa Fe to show cause why it should not install the regular 2-cent rate on this line.

Before the Santa Fe went into this region, transportation was slow, uncertain and expensive. Where the public can travel from one town to another on the new railroad in a few minutes for 50 cents, a few months ago it was compelled to pay from \$1.50 to \$2, and many hours were required. At that time every man jack making the Cushing oil regions would have signed a contract agreeing to pay any railroad 10 cents a mile if it would construct a line.

There is not the slightest question but a 5-cent rate is necessary to show even a nominal earning on the money the Santa Fe people invested in that Cushing line. Nor can there properly be any question of its right to fix a tariff that will enable that particular investment to take care of itself.

If a railroad company can not buy a line in Oklahoma, or build a feeder, without the decent cooperation of the state authorities in making that investment profitable, then it requires no algebraic calculation to prove that railroad investments will be stopped for all time. Men will not make investments for the purpose of further loading existing investments.

The corporation commission of Wisconsin has established a law of fairness to railroad and other

investors. The roads are guaranteed protection; guaranteed an official recognition of established business principals and usages. We hope Oklahoma will speedily do likewise.

In this very Santa Fe-Cushing case the corporation commission has a wonderful opportunity to encourage additional railroad investments by establishing the precedent that such investments will be permitted to earn at least fixed charges and a nominal profit, irrespective of allied investments.

If it does, we predict that railroad investments will multiply in Oklahoma. And that is the state's great necessity.

College and university education has outgrown the boom stage, declares Dr. Samuel D. Chapman, in the annual report of the United States commissioner of education. "The day of the academic promoter of the inflation of values is over." Which reminds me of the sage and terse utterance of another sophisticated college professor: "A college education," said he, "is not necessarily an insurmountable obstacle to practical success."

The gas conservation order of the corporation commission is due today or tomorrow. It can be stated with reasonable accuracy that the commission will not undertake to fix the price which the gas marketers shall pay producers, but it will fix rigid rules with respect to closing in all gas sands encountered in oil drilling. How the responsibilities will be equalized between producers of gas and purchasers of gas remains to be seen.

The health department of the federal government assures us that it is easily possible to determine whether or not our mosquito friends are really dangerous or only a nuisance, by catching them and examining the stripes under their wings. Don't overlook this the next time one calls. And if he has certain zigzag stripes under the wings, right next to the "pulpybone," kill the critter.

The governor intimates now that he has the authority to fill the vacancies in the office of the clerk of the supreme court. Clerk Franklin now understands, we presume, just how ne'erloose it is to cross swords with the czar. We are left to wonder, however, just where the power of the governor really ends, and why he calls himself a democrat.

The theory that the cannibalizing of Europe was causing the unusual precipitation in this country has been exploded. The crops of central Europe have been cut short by an unusual drought.

Historical verity is acquitting woman. A Babylonian tablet, antedating Genesis by 2,000 years, proves it was Noah and not Adam that ate the apple.

Bulgaria, Roumania and Greece are still opening their lids. We are reminded of the sage observation of the calloused son of Erin: "I'm dom'd glad I had a country to sell!"

It is hardly possible that the celebration of an enduring peace between the English-speaking peoples was premature.

Oklahoma is wonderfully prosperous, wonderfully healthy and wonderfully ambitious and hopeful.

It is still hazardous to ape the birds.

Times' Spillway

"Geologist Will Search for Anticline," says a glaring head in the Alva Pioneer. Quick, Watson, the glass!

The Alva Pioneer says no one can keep a man from making a fool of himself once in a while. Bet ten cents W. D. has gone and been up to Kansas City again.

The Amarita Herald says that a young man with a cigarette in his mouth going down the street with a sweet-looking handsome young lady reminds it of Darwin's missing link. And we wish to say right here that little old Oklahoma City has got just as many links as any town.

"Another Link With Tulsa," set in flaring letters in the Sapulpa Argus, caused us several minutes delay. After reading half a column we found that Tulsa people all used a certain kind of oil, same as the Sapulpa people.

Miss Minnie Schofield is confined to her home on account of slipping down stairs and tearing the ligaments loose, says the Lawton Constitution.

"Rose Williams shot through the window" reads a tragic head in the Hobart Republican. Makes us shudder to think about it.

Another newspaper going into Lawton. Man there advertises for a cash register and a rolltop desk right away.

The Durant Democrat says the officials are up in the air over Mexico. Good chance to spring an aeroplane joke, but we haven't the heart.

The difficulty occurred between he and his wife, in which she inflicted painful, but not serious injuries about the head and neck with a teacup and soda pop bottle." Enlightened extract from the Waurika News-Democrat.

"Our laundry basket leaves every Tuesday," says a man in the Hinsdale News. Good service. Ours leaves Monday and doesn't get home until Saturday at that.

An expert mechanic in Cushing says two-horse power of a motor car's capacity is consumed in running the fan in front of the motor. Would deduce from this that it takes about 2,000 h. p. to start the average motor.

The Cushing Independent is responsible for a story about some officers there who dropped in to visit some Indian friends, and found them partaking of a feast in which the piece de resistance, or the chief d'oeuvre, as it were, was a shepherd dog, baked to a turn, and flanked by four cowering puppies and a small setter. Thirty years ago we would have read that without batting an eye, but today we demand the proof.

For The Supper Table

The Times
Tomato Bisque
Stuffed Tomatoes
Baked Sweet Potatoes
Lima Beans
Cabbage Salad
Peach Roly Poly
Coffee

Saturday Afternoon

Nothing down town
But the heat and the space;
Off to the seashore,
From the throngs rare;

Out of tan bandanas the clerks and
the chiefs,
Forgetful their aims, forgetting their
griefs,

Have cushioned for the dinner,
Or made for the train;

For a rest and a rated
With nature again.

Nothing down town
But a few feet go by;
With a wonder of dreams
In each heart and each eye.

Silence as Sunday,
Eric church has let out;

Only a peddler
With nothing to shout;

The clank of a trades that startles
the street;

A infer from the pine and a blur in
the heat,

Every one off for the rest of the day
Down the blue bay;

Off to the sea;

Hail and humdrum,
Light heart and gay;

Glad to be free.

Wonderful city,
As still as the moon;

Summer and Saturday
Afternoon?

Daddy and mother and baby and all,
Slender and fatish ones, shriveled
and full,

The young and the old;
The weak and the bold;

The wise and the wicked;

The fickle and true;

Nothing down town
But policemen and you.

PARTISAN CONSTITUTION

The New York World, denounces
bribery against partisanship in constitutional
conventions. Oklahoma is quite prepared to appreciate New York's woes as set forth by the World for Oklahoma has been there.

The Young Republican club makes an eloquent appeal to the republican delegates in the constitutional convention to remember that they constitute more than two-thirds of the convention, that this majority includes a majority of the dealers of the party, and that "the republicanism is y'rs" has been intrusted by the people of the state with the task of reframing the constitution."

The Young Republican club makes an eloquent appeal to the republican delegates in the constitutional convention to prevent a Tammany revision of the constitution, the people of the state have the work into the hands of reactionary republicanism, thereby insuring the same result by a different method.

There is plenty of ability in the convention, but it is ability that sees through partisan spectacles. That could not be avoided if the delegates were to be elected on a party ballot. Nevertheless, its demoralizing effect on the work of the convention is very great, and it will be almost a political miracle if the new constitution shows any evidence of real progress over the existing one.

We have no disposition to judge the record of the convention before it is completed, but the attitude of the delegates thus far brings no large measure of comfort to people who believe that New York might at best have a modernized fundamental law that would re-establish representative government.

We do not pretend that a convention in which a majority of the delegates were Democrats would have done better. It might have done much worse. In the main elements of irresponsible government there is nothing to choose between Tammany and reactionary republicanism. Both are actuated by the same motives of special privilege for property.

The pressings at Albany have already demonstrated that there is no enthusiasm among the delegates in favor of a state government modernized to meet new conditions. It is a question on one side of how far they dare go, and on the other side of how far they will have to go in order to get a constitution that can be ratified at the polls. But the process is the same old process of tinkering, and the chief points at issue relate to the number of jokers and the amount of legislation that can be smuggled into the constitution in order to check the popular will.

There may be persons who are encouraged by the work of the convention, but if so they must be persons who are well satisfied with the present constitution and with the kind of government that New York obtains under it.

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